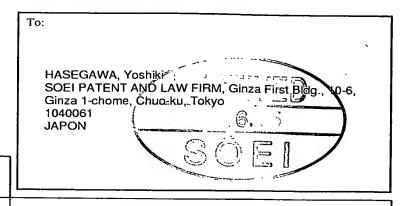
PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)

(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)



Date of mailing (day/month/year) 26 May 2006 (26.05.2006)

Applicant's or agent's file reference FP04-0220-00

International application No. PCT/JP2004/010224

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 2004 (16.07.2004)

Applicant

HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K. et al

- 1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.
 - The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).
 - The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).
- 2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

Yoshiko Kuwahara

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

| Applicant's or agent's file reference FP04-0220-00 | FOR FURTHER ACTION | See item 4 below | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| International application No. PCT/JP2004/010224 | International filing date (day/month/year) 16 July 2004 (16.07.2004) | Priority date (day/month/year) 18 July 2003 (18.07.2003) | | | | |
| International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237 | | | | | | |
| Applicant HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K. | | | | | | |

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|----------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| 1. | This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 bis.1(a). | | | | | | |
| 2. | This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet. | | | | | | |
| | In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead. | | | | | | |
| 3. | . This report contains indications relating to the following items: | | | | | | |
| | Box No. I | Basis of the report | | | | | |
| | Box No. II | Priority | | | | | |
| ٥. | Box No. III | Non-establishment of op applicability | oinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial | | | | |
| | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention | on | | | | |
| | Box No. V | | er Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial nd explanations supporting such statement | | | | |
| | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited | | | | | |
| | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the in | ternational application | | | | |
| | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on | the international application | | | | |
| 4. | 4. The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis.2). | | | | | | |
| | | - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | | | | |
| | | | Date of issuance of this report 15 May 2006 (15.05.2006) | | | | |
| The International Bureau of WIPO | | eau of WIPO | Authorized officer | | | | |

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY To: WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1) Date of mailing (day/month/year) Applicant's or agent's file reference FOR FURTHER ACTION FP04-0220-00 See paragraph 2 below International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) PCT/JP2004/010224 16.07.2004 18.07.2003 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Applicant HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items: Box No. I Basis of the opinion Box No. II Priority Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial Box No. V applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement Box No. VI Certain documents cited Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application FURTHER ACTION If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered. If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later. For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220. Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP Authorized officer Facsimile No. Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/010224

| Box | No. I | Basis of this opinion |
|-----|--------------|--|
| 1. | With filed. | regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was unless otherwise indicated under this item. |
| | | This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language |
| | | . which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under |
| | | Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)). |
| 2. | With | regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed ation, this opinion has been established on the basis of: |
| | a. 1 | type of material |
| | į | a sequence listing |
| | l | table(s) related to the sequence listing |
| | b . 1 | format of material |
| | ſ | in written format |
| | Γ | in computer readable form |
| | c. t | time of filing/furnishing |
| | Γ | contained in the international application as filed. |
| | [| filed together with the international application in computer readable form. |
| | [| furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search. |
| 3. | r | In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished. |
| 4. | Additio | ional comments: |
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.
PCT/JP2004/010224

| | | | ment under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; planations supporting such statement | | |
|----|------------|--------------------|--|------|-----|
| 1. | Statement | | | | |
| | Novelty (| N) | Claims | 1-32 | YES |
| | | | Claims | | NO |
| | Inventive | step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | | | Claims | 1-32 | NO |
| | Industrial | applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-32 | YES |
| | | | Claims | | NO |
| i | | | | | |

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 2003-154517 A (Seiko Epson Corp.) 27 May 2003, claims 3, 5-7 and 20, detailed description of invention, paragraphs 0016 and 0050, figures 11-12 Document 2: W002/22301 A1 (Hamamatsu Photonics Kabushiki Kaisha) 21 March 2002, Full text; all drawings

The inventions of claims 1-32 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1 and 2 cited in the ISR. Document 1, claims 3, 5-7 and 20, detailed description of the invention, paragraphs 0016 and 0050 disclose that voids (tiny round holes) which are the starting point for cracks caused by splitting are formed at sites which are irradiated with femtosecond lasers which bring about multiple photon absorption. As a result, applying the method described in document 1 to the method of producing lasers which forms modified areas in glass, silicon wafers and other objects to be cut by multiple photon absorption described in document 2 would be easy for a person skilled in the art.